Vancouver metro

Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016

High 19°C/Low 9°C Sun and cloud

FORT MCMURRAY

Fake evacuees collecting donations

metroNEWS

CHECKING OUT

UBC study finds smartphone notifications linked to inattention and hyperactivity symptoms

metroNEWS

GETTY IMAGES

Data needed on true cost of foreign ownership

HOUSING MARKET

B.C. also unveils new rules on shadow flipping

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

The provincial government says it needs at least six months of data before determining if foreign ownership is actually driving up home prices in Vancouver.

British Columbia Finance Minister Michael de Jong introduced two new real estate rules on Tuesday meant to end the practice of shadow flipping and to keep track of foreign capital in the province's active housing market.

Starting June 10, non-Canadian homebuyers will have to list their citizenship on property transfer tax forms.

De Jong said the simple measure will allow government to collect data on foreign ownership for the first time and he promised to share the findings with the public.

"There are lots of theories of what is contributing to steadily increasing (home) values. In my view, the reasons are complex and multi-faceted," said de Jong. "We need to get beyond the theories. This will provide us with some basic information on who the people are, where they are from and what their citizenship is."

De Jong said it will take six months or a year to get an indication of how much foreign capital could be affecting Metro Vancouver's housing market.

Speaking personally, de Jong said he doesn't believe foreign ownership is a driving factor in the market.

He went so far as to say taxes on foreign homeownership may even undo work government has been doing elsewhere to attract investment and business from abroad.

"There are some people, the (NDP) opposition, who would advocate for a tax on foreign investment. It would be irresponsible to be advocating that without a clearer sense of what portion of the market is affected by this," said de Jong.

"In a market that is still influenced by demand and supply, I don't think the answer is to try to artificially constrict demand, whether it is international or within the country."

The other half of de Jong's announcement pertained to shadow flipping, the practice that allows some real estate agents and middlemen to effectively sell a home multiple times without the sellers' knowledge before the original closing date and keep the profits for themselves.

Starting May 16, the new rules will require real estate licensees to gain the seller's consent to transfer a sales contract and ensure that the seller is the one that receives any extra profits from the transfer.

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Budweiser beer renamed 'America' for patriotic marketing campaign. **Business**

Housing the top concern: Poll

REAL ESTATE

B.C. real-estate market greater worry than economy

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

Metro Vancouver's red-hot real estate market could be a game changer in the 2017 provincial election in British Columbia.

According to a new poll from Insights West and Business in Vancouver, housing, poverty and homelessness is the top issue facing the province at the moment.

Twenty-two per cent of poll respondents pegged it as their top issue, overtaking the economy and jobs at 20 per cent, health care at 17 per cent and government accountability at 12 per cent.

Insights West vice-president Mario Canseco told Metro the findings could change the landscape of the next provincial election, which is now less than a year away.

"Housing is climbing the charts. I've never seen a B.C.-wide poll where something other than the environment or the economy is the top issue," he said.

While Premier Christy Clark and the BC Liberals received a "B" grade for their handling of the economy, public safety and the environment (with 39, 34 and 32 per cent saying the government is doing a good job on those files, respectively), they struggle when it comes to housing.

Seventy-one per cent of respondents think the provincial government has done a bad job handling housing, poverty and homelessness issues, with just 15 per cent giving them positive marks.

A new poll has found that housing and homelessness are the top political issues in B.C. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

Just over a third of British Columbians approve of Clark's performance, while 59 per cent disapprove.

B.C. New Democratic Party leader John Horgan, Clark's main challenger in next year's election, has an approval rating of 40 per cent.

Provincially, the NDP has the most support at the moment, at 40 per cent, followed by the Liberals with 34, the Green Party with 14 and the Conservatives with 10 (though much was made about the NDP doing well in polls ahead of the 2013 election, which they soundly lost).

Former RCMP Insp. Tim Shields. KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO

INVESTIGATION

RCMP officer charged with sexual assault

A high-ranking RCMP officer in British Columbia has been charged with sexual assault, the Criminal Justice Branch announced Tuesday.

Inspector Timothy Shields, once the public face of the department in B.C., faces a single count of sexual assault as a result of an investigation into sexual misconduct alleged to have occurred between 2009 and 2010.

Shields was the officer in charge of the B.C. RCMP's Strategic Communications Unit (SCU) at the time and was working out of its provincial headquarters in Vancouver.

The Criminal Justice Branch said the investigation was launched after a complaint from a civilian RCMP employee who was working with the SCU at the time.

A statement from B.C. RCMP Deputy Commissioner Craig Callens says it first learned of the allegations in 2013 in a civil claim filed against the force by another employee, but there was not enough evidence at the time to proceed with an investigation.

New information came to light in 2014, and an internal RCMP investigation was launched alongside the criminal investigation.

Shields was suspended in May 2015 and he later resigned from the RCMP in December.

"This effectively ended the jurisdiction of the RCMP to proceed with a conduct hearing on these allegations," Callens said.

"As the commanding officer, I would emphasize that the RCMP pursued this investigation as it would any serious criminal matter, regardless that the suspect was a senior police officer.

"Charges of this nature against a police officer are disturbing and are even more so that it (was) alleged to have occurred in our headquarters."

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

Shield's next court appearance is scheduled for June 27.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

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Scientists advise people to put their phones away

SCIENCE

Constant pings and alerts lead to inattention, hyperactivity

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Millennials hooked on their smartphones are often accused of having short attention spans, but a new University of B.C. study suggests the stereotype might be true.

The constant pinging of smartphone notifications has been linked to symptoms of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder — or ADHD — among the general population, according to the study, which was presented this week at the CHI conference in California.

Students hold a variety of smartphone devices. A University of British Columbia study has found that people who keep their phones on ring or vibrate report more symptoms of inattention and hyperactivity than those who turn their phones on silent. GETTY IMAGES

Kostadin Kushlev, a psychology research scientist at the University of Virginia, who led the study with colleagues at UBC, said his team wanted to look at the effect of digital distractions with the rising use of smartphones.

"What we wondered was how these constant notifications and self-interruptions — when people check their phones more frequently than they need to — are affecting people's attention and activity levels," Kushlev told Metro. "Inattention and hyperactivity has been associated with a lot of negative outcomes in terms of reduced productivity, reduced wellbeing and a reduced sense of connectedness."

> **Rather than putting a phone on the table ... maybe put it in a bag, backpack or pocket.**
> Kostadin Kushley, a scientist who led the study

For the study, the researchers followed 221 UBC students and assessed their levels of inattention and hyperactivity over two weeks. The students were recruited from the university's general population, rather than from a pool of students diagnosed with ADHD.

In the first week, study participants were asked to maximize phone interruptions by keeping notification alerts on and their device within sight and reach. Participants were then asked to turn their alerts offs and keep their phones away for the second week.

Throughout the study, participants completed daily surveys asking them to report how they felt over the week in an effort to measure their inattention, hyperactivity, productivity and psychological wellbeing.

The findings? When people switched their notification alerts on and kept their phones within reach, they experienced higher levels of inattention and hyperactivity than when they minimized interruptions.

However, Kushlev emphasized that the findings don't indicate that smartphones cause ADHD or that reducing use of devices can treat the disorder. Rather, the data "simply suggests that smartphones could be causing symptoms of ADHD in all of us," he said.

On the bright side, Kushlev said the problem can be turned off.

He said people could reduce distractions by turning off their notifications or keeping their phones out of sight or reach.

"Rather than putting a phone on the table where it acts as a reminder to 'check me, check me,' maybe put it in a bag, backpack or pocket," he said.

IN PRACTICE

Study highlights a need

For smartphone developers, Kushley said the study also suggests a need for devices with "smarter notifications" that can automatically activate silent mode based on a user's location or the time of day.

THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

HEALTH

Advocates take fight out west

A group that fought to ban pay-for-plasma clinics in Ontario has taken its fight to British Columbia, joining the New Democrat Opposition in its call against to forbid such facilities from operating in the province.

Members of BloodWatch.org were in the legislature when health critic Judy Darcy introduced a private member's bill that would ban companies from compensating donors for blood products, effectively banning the practice.

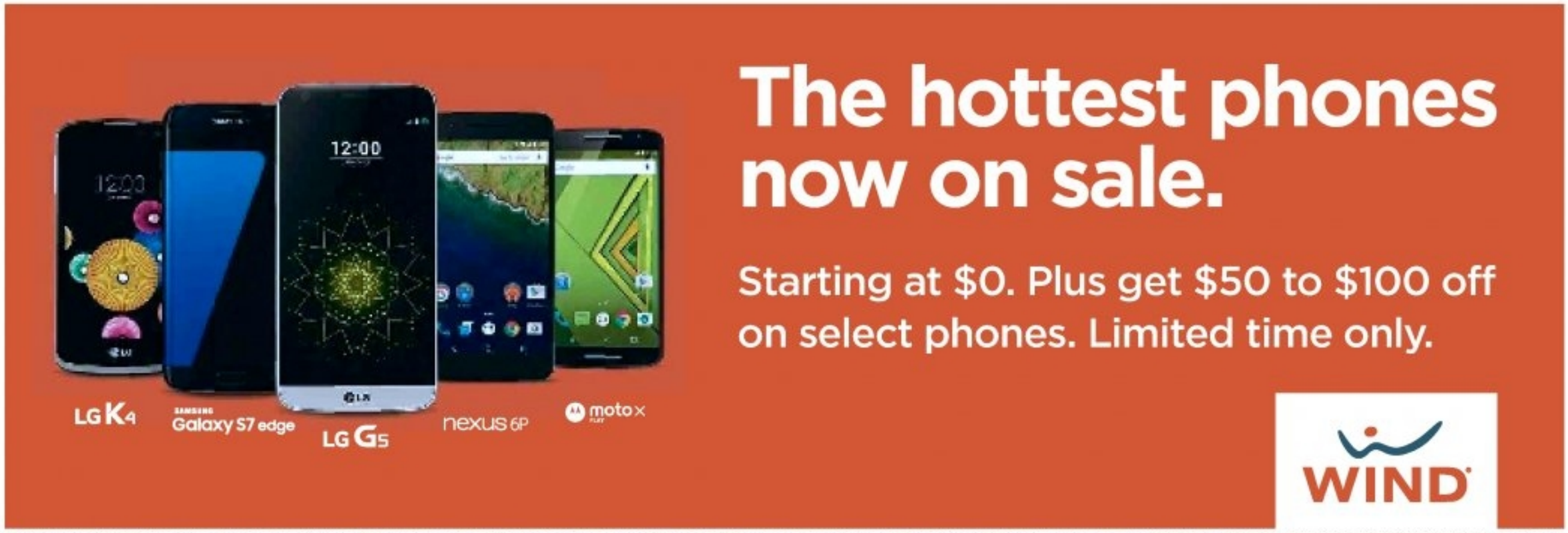
BloodWatch.org spokeswoman Kat Lanteigne said outside the legislature that Canadian Blood Services has strict standards for people who donate blood and a private company that collects plasma may not have enough oversight to ensure those standards are upheld.

She says Canada's tainted blood supply scandal during the 1980s led to the highest safeguards in the world after thousands of people contracted HIV and hepatitis C.

Ontario and Quebec both ban private companies from collecting plasma, but two different businesses operate such clinics in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Health Minister Terry Lake has said he is open to allowing pay-for-plasma clinics in B.C., but that adequate quality controls must be in place.

THE CANADIAN PRESS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Family 'like newborns'

IMPACT

Residents lose everything in Fort McMurray catastrophe

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Izdihar Salloum, left, and Shaouki Bazzi are staying with friends in Edmonton after fleeing Fort McMurray's blaze and losing nearly everything. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Shaouki Bazzi fled Fort McMurray driving his taxi, with his wife Izdihar Salloum beside him still wearing her Walmart uniform.

The flames were advancing so quickly there wasn't time to go home first. They'd gone to work Tuesday morning, when reports suggested the fire was moving away from the city. But in a story now familiar, things changed quickly. On top of losing their home to the fire, circumstances have cost the family their citizenship papers, possessions and thousands in cash. Worse yet, they're not insured.

"No job, no money, no house — we have nothing for tomorrow," Bazzi said. "When I think about it, I'm frozen."

With flames bearing down, their son raced to the house to grab their important papers.

But the road to Abasand, their neighbourhood in Fort McMurray, was already closed.

Making things worse, the family had moved into their rented townhouse six months previous and hadn't yet bought tenant insurance.

Salloum planned to travel to see her sick mother in Lebanon and had withdrawn thousands in cash that also burned. Their oldest son, an engineering student at the University of Alberta, lost his computer and textbooks.

Salloum said they're "like newborns" now and will have to start over.

Their landlord, Rebekah Benoit, has started a Gofundme campaign to help her tenants.

WITH FILES FROM HELEN PIKE/METRO

CRIME

Police warn residents of donation fraudsters

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Police in Edmonton are warning city residents to only use charities to donate money for Fort McMurray evacuees after receiving several reports of questionable activity related to cash collection.

Metro has encountered reports of people knocking on doors in the city and asking for cash donations. On Tuesday police spokeswoman Anna Batchelor said other concerns have been brought to the attention of police.

"I'm able to confirm EPS has received reports of suspicious activity regarding requests for Fort McMurray donations," Batchelor said. She said people had encountered the door knockers throughout the city, including in grocery store parking lots.

Batchelor said so far police have only had reports that seem suspicious, but have not confirmed that the donations were criminal or laid any charges. She said police are encouraging concerned citizens to donate money only through registered charities.

"If citizens are looking to donate to the relief efforts, we recommend donating directly to an organization through a verified channel," she said.

IN BRIEF

Beloved pig rescued

Move over Babe, it's Marshall's time to tell his tale.

On Monday, Alberta RCMP posted a photo of some rescued pets, and one looked familiar to Michelle Coutu.

She fled Fort McMurray's Waterways neighbourhood last minute and managed to pack her truck with dogs, and family members — but didn't have time to load Marshall, her Julianna pig.

"We had no notice that the fire was hitting Waterways and I was only able to let him out," Coutu said.

"We had to basically make a run for it. It broke my heart, I just had to open his pen and let him out." HELEN PIKE/METRO

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William Gadoury of St-Jean-de-Matha, Que., seen here in 2014 after winning a science fair for a project that discovered a correlation between Mayan cities and constellations. COURTESY QUEBEC EXPO-SCIENCES

Boy genius makes a stellar discovery

ARCHEOLOGY

Quebec teen uses the stars to track down ancient ruins

At the age of 13, William Gadoury discovered a correlation between 22 constellations and 117 ancient Mayan cities — a finding good enough to win him first prize at a science fair.

For a spectacular encore, he discovered a cluster of unexplained geometric forms hidden beneath the dense jungle growth in the Yucatan Peninsula that he suspects could be a lost and long-forgotten 118th Mayan ruin.

For this, the 15-year-old high-school student from St-Jean-de-Matha, Que., has landed himself on the world map.

Even before he takes his project, "Discovered from Space," to the Canada-wide science fair finals next week in Montreal, his work is travelling the world based on the sheer improbability that a boy with a theory may have filled in a gap that legions of archeologists and experts in ancient Mayan civilization didn't even know existed.

> He's not someone who spends his time playing his Game Boy.
> University of New Brunswick's Armand LaRocque

Gadoury's fascination with the Mayan civilization began in 2012, the year that Mayans had predicted the end of the world.

But his quest that led to a 2014 science-fair project started with a question: Gadoury wanted to figure out why the Mayans built their cities inland when it would have made much more sense to settle next to rivers and along the seashores.

That kicked off his first discovery, which was that there was a correlation between 117 known Mayan cities and 22 constellations. But where was the city that corresponded to the 23rd?

The Canadian Space Agency was able to help by accessing satellite images.

"We could actually see structures … and we calculated the size of this by counting the number of pixels on the imagery," said Daniel De Lisle, who worked with the satellite imagery. "We could see that it fit the dimensions of a potential pyramid. So we could not see the pyramid per se, but the foundation is about the same size." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Canada, U.S. no-fly redress group takes flight

The federal public-safety minister says Canada and the U.S. have set up a working group to help sort out errors of identity on no-fly lists.

Ralph Goodale says the bilateral Redress Working Group provides a way for officials to communicate. The moves follow reports of dozens of youngsters enduring airport delays because their names matched others on a security list.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

COURT

Ghomeshi's lawyer behind peace bond

An expected agreement that will see fired radio host Jian Ghomeshi apologize and sign a peace bond in exchange for the withdrawal of a sexual-assault charge against him was instigated by his lawyer, a source familiar with the proceedings said Tuesday.

The offer, expected to be formalized at a court hearing on Wednesday, became contingent on his admitting to misconduct against the complainant, a former CBC employee, and an appropriately worded apology, the source said. The source insisted on anonymity given the sensitivity of the matter.

On Tuesday, the Ministry of the Attorney General announced the hearing would take place Wednesday in an Ontario court of justice before Judge Timothy Lipson. Ghomeshi, 48, had been expected to stand trial next month on a single charge of sexual assault related to an incident alleged to have occurred at the CBC in 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Donald Trump gets a Nebraska boost

U.S. ELECTION

GOP bigwigs start to line up behind brash billionaire

Key Senate Republicans voiced optimism Tuesday about Donald Trump's presidential prospects in November, the clearest signal yet to the GOP rank and file to unite behind the bombastic billionaire and turn their energy against Democrat Hillary Clinton. But it was uncertain whether the doubters could be quieted.

Trump added two more primaries to his column, taking West Virginia and Nebraska.

"We have a nominee, it looks like he may well be very competitive, and we want to win the White House," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell told reporters. He also said, "We know that Hillary Clinton will be four more years of Barack Obama. I think that's going to in the end be enough to unify Republicans across the country."

Still, doubt and angst over Trump remained palpable as GOP lawmakers returned from a week-long recess that saw him effectively clinch the presidential nomination. For some, the question of whether they were backing their party's standard-bearer — a no-brainer in a normal election year — proved too much to answer.

Another Republican who's up for re-election, Tim Scott of South Carolina, offered his support, but like others managed to sound grudging in the process. "I'm supporting the Republican candidate, and it happens to be Donald Trump," he said.

The comments reflected ongoing divisions in a party still reeling over Trump's success.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald Trump speaks during an interview in his office at Trump Tower on Tuesday in New York. MARY ALTAFFER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clinical Sleep SOLUTIONS

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Burnaby - Apr 25 to Apr 27, 2016
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North Vancouver – North Vancouver Public Library, May 26 @ 7pm
Squamish – Squamish Public Library, May 31 @ 7pm

Call 1-800-732-7985 or email customerservice@clinicalsleep.com for more information and to reserve your seat!

TECHNOLOGY

Apple Pay to enter Canadian market

Apple Pay mobile payments will hit Canada in full force in the coming weeks, after the Cupertino, Calif.-based tech behemoth announced agreements Tuesday with the country's Big Five banks, as well as with debit and credit-card companies.

Starting Tuesday, users of the newest iPhones who bank with CIBC and RBC will be able to use Apple's digital wallet for both credit and debit card payments. Customers with Canadian Tire financial services and Alberta-based ATB can also use it for credit payments.

In the coming weeks — likely by June — BMO, TD and Scotiabank will add the service for Mastercard, Visa and debit cards.

Apple Pay only works with the newest Apple devices, such as the iPhone 6, 6s and Apple Watches. It launched in the U.S. in fall 2014 and earlier this year in the U.K.

Apple Pay allows customers to hold their devices up to payment terminals in stores to pay. It uses encrypted technology to store and send information, so is considered by some to be more secure than plastic cards.

Apple reached an agreement with payment processor Moneris for use with the 85 per cent of its terminals that are enabled with near-field communication technology. Apple Pay also lets users make online payments to retailers on their iPads and iPhones using apps.

Apple Pay launched Tuesday. CONTRIBUTED

It's unclear whether the widespread launch of Apple Pay will be the universal payment method that will lead to wider-spread adoption of mobile payments.

Mobile payments have yet to take off in Canada, even though it has wider adoption of contactless terminals than in the U.S.

Just 11 per cent of consumers said they would use Apple Pay at least weekly in a recent Accenture survey. And only 25 per cent of Canadians have all the components in place to use digital wallets, according to a report by the banks released last July.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Border guards killed five refugees: Rights group

A rights advocacy group claimed Tuesday that Turkish border guards have in the past two months killed five Syrians who were trying to cross into Turkey.

Human Rights Watch accused border guards of shooting and beating asylum-seekers and at least one smuggler. It said that five refugees — including a child — were killed and 14 others were wounded in March and April.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A contrasting view of Philippines' new leader

Rodrigo Duterte, the bombastic mayor of a southern city, was heralded as president-elect of the Philippines after a campaign that projected him as an emancipator as well as a looming dictator.

Results from a semi-official count gave Duterte a large lead, thrusting him into national politics for the first time after 22 years as mayor of Davao and a prosecutor.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

ON GHOMESHI AVOIDING TRIAL #2

Does this mean we're going to turn the courts into the principal's office where bad boys (mostly) go for a slap on the wrist? What are peace bonds if not the state equivalent of 'Say you're sorry, Tommy,' and, 'I've got my eye on you!'

Women have been lied to. We've been made fools of.

We are told that sexual assault is a crime, but it looks like it's a crime largely in name only, and Jian Ghomeshi has showed us how.

Ghomeshi will appear in court in Toronto today, reportedly to agree to a peace bond instead of enduring a second trial for one charge of sexual assault. After he was acquitted of sexual assault and choking charges in March — by a judge who issued a public scolding of the three witnesses along with a ruling — either the complainant or the Crown or both decided to indefinitely postpone round two.

And the result, a peace bond, strikes me as infuriating.

Peace bonds are basically an agreement to keep the peace and keep to good behaviour, and can include other conditions.

As part of that agreement, my colleagues at the Toronto Star report Ghomeshi might "express remorse over conduct" at the heart of this case during today's court appearance (he allegedly thrust his crotch into a colleague's backside at work one day, while still the lauded host of CBC's Q). Does that mean we're going to turn the courts into the principal's office where bad boys (mostly) go for a slap on the wrist? What are peace bonds if not the state equivalent of "Say you're sorry, Tommy," and, "I've got my eye on you!"

Understanding that this is not a surprising outcome (0.2 per cent of sexual assaults end in convictions) should mitigate the anger. But it doesn't, because this scandal has been a walking tour through a house of lies, and I, for one, could never have expected how it would feel to come out the other side.

I believe the justice system can and must be improved.

As it is written in the Criminal Code, Canada's sexual assault laws are "actually pretty good," law professor Brenda Cossman noted in a Chatelaine article in March. "There is an expansive definition of consent or more specifically its absence, and the Supreme Court of Canada has insisted that consent be positive and ongoing."

But in reality, the crime of sexual assault turns out to be a kind of legal Russian doll with seemingly endless amendments added in its practical application, each nestled inside the last. The amendments dictate all kinds of requirements to prove a crime, spanning from the circumstances of the event to the complainant's behaviour. The high bar of being believed turns out to be almost insurmountable.

Just yesterday, I heard of a separate trial involving sexual assault that will not proceed, because the woman doesn't want to testify after watching Ghomeshi's first trial.

There is a crucial question here: What is to be done?

I believe the justice system can and must be improved. If we decide as a society that something is a crime, it deserves to be treated as a crime. To abandon all hope for criminal convictions in sexual assaults is far too fatalistic, especially since they do happen. (Linda Redgrave — the first witness in Ghomeshi's first trial — should be commended for her efforts to help other complainants navigate the legal system). And while I understand the efforts afoot to develop alternative options for survivors who don't want to go through trial, we can't afford to further water down sexual violence by giving up on aiming for convictions altogether. It's devalued enough as it is.

Farrah Khan, a counsellor and sexual violence activist, called this a moment of "mourning" for the idea that women are offered justice for sexual violence by the legal system. "We have a crisis in confidence," she said, echoing the general sentiment.

But we also have a new vantage point. And we have the women who went forward with charges to thank for that.

Do Canadians really care about animals?

Thomas Walkom

Canada's contradictory approach to animals was on vivid display this week.

In Fort McMurray, ordinary people risked their lives to save pets trapped in fire-threatened homes.

Meanwhile in Ottawa Monday, the other way we see animals was in evidence. That's when a Liberal backbencher's effort to toughen up animal cruelty laws ran into a Parliamentary buzz saw.

Toronto MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith's private member's Bill C-246 is pretty mild stuff. Among other things, it would criminalize the "brutal and vicious" killing of animals without lawful excuse. Yet to some MPs it is the thin edge of a very large wedge.

Manitoba Conservative Robert Sopuck called Bill C-246 a Trojan horse designed to advance the agenda of animal rights extremists. Alberta Conservative Blaine Calkins mused that the bill might allow animal rights advocates to bring charges against those who don't properly groom pets.

Former Toronto police chief Bill Blair, now a Toronto Liberal MP, fretted that by criminalizing the brutal or vicious killing of animals, the bill could threaten what he called heritage activities.

Blair said it was premature to talk of amending animal cruelty laws in isolation and that any change should wait until a full overhaul of the entire criminal code takes place.

Since he is parliamentary secretary to Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould, his remarks presumably reflect the position of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government.

The comments of Blair and his two Conservative colleagues also give a flavour of the other way in which Canadians see animals — as resources, like rocks or trees, which exist only to satisfy human wants. The woeful inadequacies of Canada's animal cruelty laws are well-known.

But whenever politicians attempt to strengthen the law to deal with such cases, they run into the same arguments.

Bill C-246 already exempts activities involving aboriginal rights. Erskine-Smith said he'd be willing to amend the bill to exempt other legal activities, such as hunting and fishing.

In an effort to touch on issues with popular appeal, Bill C-246 would also ban the import of shark fins from countries that don't follow Canadian standards. It would criminalize all aspects of animal fighting and ban the import of cat and dog fur.

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters has served notice that it will oppose the bill. It is already lobbying Liberal MPs.

At the best of times, private members' bills have a hard time getting through Parliament. If Blair's comments are any indication, the Liberal government has no interest in taking on this politically fraught issue. That leaves the rest of us.

Thomas Walkom is a national columnist for the Toronto Star.

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Meghan Trainor yanks photoshopped music video, says "my waist is not that teeny"

Tale of two tamarind drinks

This flavour typically found in tropical Asian cuisine adds a tangy kick to spring cocktails

This recipe pays homage to the best whiskey sour I've ever had, served at the Whiskey Soda Lounge in Portland, Oregon. The tamarind adds a slightly bitter and sour note, which plays well with the fresh lime juice. Cane sugar adds a sweet finish, and the bourbon punches through without overpowering the other flavors. It's dreamy.

This is the perfect drink to make when you're entertaining friends during the summer, and pairs especially well with spicy dishes.

Simple Tamarind Whiskey Sour

Serves 1. Total time: 5 min.

Ingredients:
- Orange peel + maraschino cherry, for garnish
- 1 Tbsp (15g) fresh tamarind concentrate (can be found online and in Asian grocery stores)
- 1 1⁄2 Tbsp (19g) organic cane sugar (or sub agave nectar or maple syrup)
- 1 ounce (2 Tbsp or 30ml) lime or lemon juice
- 1 1⁄2 ounces (44ml) bourbon whiskey
- Ice, for shaking + serving

Directions:

1. Prepare a glass with one large ice cube (or 4-6 small ice cubes), orange peel, and cherry. Set aside.

2. In a cocktail shaker, muddle sugar, lime juice, and tamarind concentrate until well combined.

3. Add bourbon and a generous handful of ice. Shake vigorously.

4. Pour over ice and serve.

COURTESY/THE MINIMALIST BAKER

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Fair warning: This cocktail goes down very smoothly. So to make sure that no one overdoes it, serve it in reasonably sized rocks glasses — not too big— and with generous amounts of ice. You want your guests to keep their focus on what's important: the game and the food!

Tamarind Margarita

Serves 10. Time: 10 to 15 min

Ingredients:
- 15 fluid ounces tequila
- 10 fluid ounces Triple Sec
- 2 fluid ounces Tamarind Paste (page 340)
- 20 fluid ounces fresh lime juice (from 20 to 30 limes)
- 4 fluid ounces fresh orange juice (from 1 to 2 oranges)
- 4 fluid ounces Simple Syrup (page 344)

Directions:

1. Pour the tequila, Triple Sec, and tamarind paste into a 2- to 3-quart bottle with a lid. Cover and shake well until the tamarind paste is dissolved. Pour in the lime juice, orange juice, and simple syrup. Shake until very well combined.

2. If you want to rim the glasses with orange salt, on a small plate, combine the salt with the grated orange zest and stir well with a fork. Have ready ten rocks glasses. Run a lime wedge around the rim of one of the glasses to moisten it and, holding the glass at an angle, roll the outer edge of the rim in the salt until fully coated. Repeat with the remaining glasses.

3. Generously fill the rocks glasses with ice and pour over the tamarind margarita. Garnish each serving with a lime slice. Serve.

COURTESY/LAUREN VOLO

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ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER

THIS WEEK: Soy sauce

From sushi to stir-fries, soy sauce flavours our favourite Asian dishes — but not all are the same when it comes to sodium

PICK THIS

China Lily

Sodium
610 mg/1 Tbsp

SKIP THIS

Kikkoman Soy Sauce

Sodium
920 mg/1 Tbsp

HERE'S WHY

Equivalent to 2 small bags of Kernels Buttersalt Popcorn in sodium

We know soy sauce is a salt bomb when it comes to sodium and should be used sparingly, but by choosing a lighter pick you can cut the salt factor considerably. Excess sodium in our diet can lead to high blood pressure and an increased risk for many ailments including stroke, heart failure and kidney stones. Always read the label and don't assume all products are equal — in this case, you can cut out a 1/3 of unnecessary sodium while still being able to enjoy your favourite foods.

Tom Brady's $200 cookbook sells out

BIG SALES

QB says book a step toward achieving peak performance

It looks like a $200 price tag couldn't keep Tom Brady's fans from gobbling up the Patriots quarterback's new cookbook.

The TB12 Nutrition Manual features 89 recipes and is described on the four-time Super Bowl champion's website as being printed on 100-pound text paper with covers made from natural wood that include laser etching.

Brady has posted a picture from the book on his Facebook page, calling it "another step toward achieving your peak performance." Recipes include avocado ice cream and carrot cake.

The book can be taken apart and expanded.

The description on the site says anyone who buys it will receive additional pages with new or modified recipes.

It's listed as sold out and a note says more may be available early next month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tom Brady's TB12 Nutrition Manual features 89 recipes.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUTRITION

Scientists unveil star gene in carrots

Scientists unveiled Monday the gene in carrots that gives rise to carotenoids, a critical source of Vitamin A and the pigment that turns some fruits and vegetables bright orange or red.

Unpoetically dubbed DCAR_032551, the star gene emerged from the first complete decoding of the carrot genome, published in the scientific journal Nature Genetics.

"Vitamin A deficiency is a global health challenge," the study pointed out.

"Its plentiful carotenoids make carrot an important source of provitamin A in the human diet."

Carotenoids were first discovered in carrots (hence the name), but which among the vegetable's newly tallied 32,115 genes was most responsible for their formation remained a mystery.

Daucus carota (the Latin name) now joins a select club of about a dozen veggies — including the potato, cucumber, tomato and pepper — whose complete genomes have been sequenced.

Laying bare the humble carrot's genetic secrets will make it easier to enhance disease resistance and nutritive value in other species, the researchers said.

Having identified the mechanism controlling the accumulation of carotenoid, it may be possible — through gene-editing, for example — to import it to other staple root vegetables such as the cassava, native to South America and widely grown in Africa. AFP

FAMILY TREE

Looking back at the carrot's family tree, scientists have been able to determine that it split with the grape about 113 million years ago and from the kiwi about 10 million years after that, when dinosaurs still lorded over the planet.

LIQUID ASSETS

Sedàra Rosso perfect with seafood pasta

My favourite meal during my recent trip to Italy was Sicilian, the theme of the restaurant next door — Sicilainbocca Trattoria — to the apartment I had rented in the Prati district of Rome.

Sadly Sicily's wines have struggled to find a following here in Canada. You'd fall in love with its juice if you could pair it with a plate of pasta con le sarde (sardines and fennel over a bed of bucatini). Donnafugata is one of the island's premier producers, with its 2013 Sedàra Rosso ($15.95-$19.49), a rich, cherry-infused beauty made from a base of Sicily's top red grape Nero d'Avola. Perfect with seafood pasta, it's also a great match with grilled meats.

PETER ROCKWELL/ METRO

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metro DRIVE

Your essential daily news

Lexus premiered its new IS entry-level sedan at the Beijing Auto Show this week

Pretty strong, for a truck its size

ROAD TESTED

REVIEW

New Ridgeline has more conventional styling

Jil McIntosh
For Metro Canada

Can something that's based on an SUV, and that runs primarily in front-wheel drive, be considered a real truck? Indeed it can, as Honda's Ridgeline proves.

All-new for 2017, and going on sale this summer starting at $36,590, this second-generation model now features more conventional truck styling.

But it keeps a few of the old Ridgeline's best features, including a dual-action tailgate that can be opened conventionally or pulled open like a door, and a lockable trunk tucked in under a truck bed that's made of non-scratch composite so you don't have to add a liner.

The size of the 3.5-litre V6 engine doesn't change, but the unit itself is new as well, with direct gasoline injection and a six-speed transmission, giving it more power with better fuel economy.

The suspension is also changed, tuned for a better ride and handling. The truck feels lighter and it's great to drive, with an overall SUV-style feel.

All models come with all-wheel drive that automatically distributes torque as needed from front to rear.

While it's obviously not designed for rock crawling, it's surprisingly capable for many off-road duties.

It also employs torque vectoring, switching power between the left and right rear wheels, not just for extra traction when it's slippery, but also on curves.

The truck corners smoothly and accurately, instead of understeering and plowing ahead.

The Ridgeline can tow up to 5,000 pounds, and while I definitely knew I had a trailer back there, the front end stayed firmly planted for a confident ride.

The spacious interior offers all kinds of storage space, including rear seats that let you tuck a set of golf clubs under them, or fold up so cargo can be put on the floor.

That said, the rear doors don't open as wide as on most other trucks.

I've always been fond of the Ridgeline. It's capable enough to handle most mid-size-truck jobs, and against full-size trucks that have grown massively large, it's easy for shorter drivers like me to get in and out of it. I

t's definitely a truck, and a pretty good one at that, too.

THE CHECKLIST | 2017 HONDA RIDGELINE

THE BASICS

Type. Four-door, five-passenger mid-size pickup truck
Engine (hp/torque). 3.5-litre V6 (280/262)
Transmission. Six-speed automatic
Price. $36,590 - $48,590

COOL FEATURES

- Adaptive cruise control
- Lane keeping and hill start assist
- Integrated bed lights
- Heated seats and steering wheel
- Seven-pin trailer connector
- Tire fill assist
- Standard review camera

POINTS

- The top-line trims have a waterproof, in-bed audio system that plays tunes through the truck's stereo.
- The side-opening tailgate mode makes it easier to reach cargo, since you don't have to stretch across the gate.
- The bed now has a cutline apart from the body, but the unibody construction under it is all one piece.

RIDGELINE PHOTOS JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO; ALL OTHERS CONTRIBUTED

MARKET POSITION

The Ridgeline pulls a lot of buyers out of SUVs, who like its sport-utility driving experience but with the convenience of a truck box. It's also outfitted for leisure buyers, who'll have fun with it at cottages and campsites.

THE COMPETITION

Chevrolet Colorado 4x4
Base price: $21,320

Nissan Frontier 4x4
Base price: $28,113

Toyota Tacoma
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Toyota keeps the design with C-HR

PRICING

EV sales surge expected as battery costs fall

Energy analysts believe that a surge in electric-car sales could be just around the corner, according to a report by Bloomberg New Energy Finance. Electric cars and plug-in hybrids could come to represent 35 per cent of new light-duty vehicle sales by 2040, it says. A major increase in sales beginning in the 2020s will be driven primarily by steady decreases in the cost of lithium-ion batteries. By 2040, the report indicates, electric-car sales could reach 41 million units globally, which is about 90 times the number sold in 2015. Those cars would save/not use 13 million barrels of crude oil per day. The decreasing cost of lithium-ion batteries will make electric cars cost-competitive with internal combustion ones, the report concluded.

DESIGN

Mini Toyota tall wagon remains "recognizable"

Toyota's entry into the fast-growing subcompact tall-wagon category debuted in production trim at the recent Geneva Motor Show in Switzerland. The Toyota C-HR retains much of the original design of the concept that heralded it, says auto info Web site Motor Authority. "The bulbous wheel wells, low roofline and boomerang-like lights are all recognizeable." Rear door handles are obscured while blacked-out rear pillars help create a "floating roof" look. Sharing its platform with the new-generation Prius, the C-HR will have a hybrid powertrain option alongside conventional gasoline engines, making it Toyota's third hybrid tall wagon after the full-size Highlander Hybrid and compact RAV4 Hybrid. Originally planned to be sold wearing a Scion badge, it will now be a Toyota instead.

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Highline model shown

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Volkswagen

‡Compared to rates available in April 2016. *Limited time finance purchase offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit, based on a new and unregistered 2016 Jetta 1.4T Trendline (#163VF1) base model with 5-speed manual transmission with base MSRP of $17,620, including $1,625 freight and PDI, financed at 0% APR for 84 months equals 182 bi-weekly payments starting from $97. $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in due at signing. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $17,620. PPSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. **Up to $2,000 finance bonus cash available to be applied as a discount on MSRP on finance only (through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit) of select new and unregistered 2016 Jetta 1.8T Highline, GLI and Hybrid models. Discount varies by model. †**Lease payments of $196 on the Jetta must be made on a monthly basis and cannot be made weekly.** Weekly equivalent payments shown for information only. Limited time lease offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit, based on a new and unregistered 2016 Jetta 1.4T Trendline (#163VF1) base model with 5-speed manual transmission. $1,625 freight and PDI included in monthly payment. 48-month term at 0.99% APR. $1,350 down payment, $250 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation: $10,758. 64,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.15/km for excess kilometres. PPSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers end May 31, 2016 and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Model shown: 2016 Jetta 1.8T Highline automatic transmission, $27,995. Vehicle shown for illustration purposes only and may include optional equipment. Visit vwoffers.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Autobahn for All", "Jetta", "TSI", "Highline" and "Trendline" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2016 Volkswagen Canada.

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Fiat Chrysler's self-driving vision

"If we don't explore it, we will never know," said Sergio Marchionne, the head of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles at a press conference on late last week. ANDREA BALDO/AFP

TECHNOLOGY

Automaker and Google team up to put new cars on the road

Self-driving cars could hit roads within five years, the head of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles said Friday, days after the company announced an alliance with Google parent Alphabet.

Chief executive Sergio Marchionne declined to disclose financial details of the partnership or a timetable for building minivans that will expand the Internet company's test fleet of autonomous vehicles.

"It's not sort of 'pie-in-the-sky,' the thing is real and it's coming," Marchionne said.

"People are talking about 20 years, I think we'll have it here in the next five years."

Alphabet this week announced an alliance with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) in a major expansion of its fleet of self-driving vehicles.

The company's test fleet will be more than doubled with the addition of 100 new 2017 Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid minivans, with the companies aiming to have some on the road by the end of this year.

The collaboration with FCA marks the first time that the California-based Internet giant has worked directly with an automaker to build self-driving vehicles.

"FCA will design the minivans, so it's easy for us to install our self-driving systems, including the computers that hold our self-driving software, and the sensors that enable our software to see what's on the road around the vehicle," the car team said in a post at the Google+ social network.

The minivan design also paves a road to explore the potential of large self-driving vehicles that could be used mass-transit style with features such as hands-free sliding doors for getting in or out, according to the post.

Alphabet said it was not licensing its autonomous car technology, and won't sell the self-driving minivans.

Marchionne noted that there are many unresolved issues, including how self-driving cars will be priced and what kinds of features will be built into them.

"But, if we don't explore it, we will never know," Marchionne told reporters during the official launch of the 2017 Chrysler Pacifica minivan at an 88-year-old plant in Ontario just across the Canadian border from Detroit.

The Pacifica was designed for hybrid or battery electric power trains and is capable of supporting Google's self-driving hardware, according to FCA.

While the partnership with Alphabet is limited in nature, Marchionne looked ahead to future developments.

"I think most of us in this industry would agree that we are going to transition to a different state than what we are in today," he said.

"I think walking through the transition in a collaborative fashion with people who have historically been viewed as intruders and potential enemies of our business is the best possible solution for us."

Google began testing its autonomous driving technology in 2009, using a Toyota Prius rigged with the tech giant's equipment. It now has some 70 vehicles, including Lexus cars adapted by Google and its in-house designed cars unveiled in 2014.

The companies will position engineering teams at a facility in Michigan to accelerate the design, testing and manufacturing of the self-driving Chrysler Pacifica.

An array of automobile makers including Audi, Ford, Mercedes, Lexus, Tesla and BMW are working on building self-driving capabilities into vehicles. AFP

> **People are talking about 20 years, I think we'll have it here in the next five years.**
> Sergio Marchionne, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles

metro SPORTS

Eugenie Bouchard won a matchup of former top-10 players Tuesday with a 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 win over Jelena Jankovic to start the Italian Open

Whitecaps still in search of consistency

MLS

Vancouver fresh off high of beating last year's champs

The Vancouver Whitecaps know they're still very much a work in progress.

The Major League Soccer club defeated the rival Portland Timbers 2-1 at home on Saturday despite trailing at halftime in what was by far Vancouver's best performance of 2016.

The Whitecaps (4-5-2) directed 26 shots towards Portland's goal and played with a spirit that head coach Carl Robinson had been demanding as he tried to shake his team out of a disappointing 1-3-2 run.

With the Chicago Fire (1-2-4) up next at BC Place Stadium on Wednesday, Vancouver is hoping for more of the same.

"We're looking better. I don't think we're done," said Whitecaps goalkeeper David Ousted. "We constantly need to be better.... I'll always be one of the guys who says the work's never done."

Vancouver hustled to every ball against the Timbers. A late defensive play from captain and offensive catalyst Pedro Morales to deny Portland a possible tying goal stood as a perfect example of the commitment Robinson wants to see game in, game out.

The Whitecaps' Octavio Rivero heads the ball towards Timbers goalkeeper Jake Gleeson at BC Place Stadium on Saturday. BEN NELMS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I require that from every single player, whether you're the goalkeeper or the captain of the team," said the Welshman. "The work rate was there. The quality takes care of itself. You can't just turn up and expect to be a good team. You've got to put the hard work in."

And Robinson made it clear he expects that effort level all the time, not just against the reigning MLS Cup champions, who also just happened to be the team that bounced the Whitecaps from the 2015 playoffs.

"The standard is set now from Saturday's game, but we've got to maintain that," said Robinson. "It's about consistency. The teams that are most successful in this league are very consistent, and we've got to start striving for that as well." THE CANADIAN PRESS

BUSY WEEK

The Whitecaps are in the middle of another stretch of three games in eight days that will see them visit Toronto FC on Saturday. They went 1-1-1 over an identical period at the end of last month.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Westbrook guides OKC to series lead

Russell Westbrook had 35 points, 11 rebounds and nine assists, and the Oklahoma City Thunder rallied in the fourth quarter to beat the San Antonio Spurs 95-91 on Tuesday night and take a 3-2 lead in the Western Conference semifinal series.

Kevin Durant added 23 points as the Thunder won for the second time in San Antonio in the series. Oklahoma City can close out the series Thursday in Game 6 at home.

Westbrook sealed the victory with a three-point play with 6.3 seconds remaining, scoring after the Spurs weren't able to foul him intentionally and he drove for a layup while being fouled.

Kawhi Leonard finished with 26 points for San Antonio, which lost at home once in the regular season and has dropped two straight there now. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russell Westbrook
ERIC GAY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS

Pens drop curtains on Caps' season

Nick Bonino put a rebound past Braden Holtby 6:32 into overtime to give the Pittsburgh Penguins a 4-3 win over the Washington Capitals on Tuesday night to wrap up the hotly contested Eastern Conference semifinal in six games.

The Capitals rallied from a three-goal deficit over the final 22 minutes of regulation, but Bonino's second goal of the playoffs sent the Penguins to the Eastern Conference final against Tampa Bay.

Holtby made the initial stop on Carl Hagelin but Bonino, camped right outside the crease, tapped in the winner.

Washington forward Jay Beagle made a remarkable save from his belly in front of the net on Patric Hornqvist early in overtime but there was no stopping Bonino's tap-in.

Phil Kessel scored twice and Hagelin added a goal for Pittsburgh. Rookie Matt Murray made 36 saves as the Penguins continued their playoff mastery over the Capitals.

T.J. Oshie, Justin Williams and John Carlson scored for Washington. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GAME 6 In Pittsburgh

4	3
PENGUINS	CAPITALS

CFL DRAFT

Riders bolster O-line with No. 1 pick

Chris Jones picked up a huge insurance policy for quarterback Darian Durant on Tuesday night.

The Saskatchewan Roughriders' new head coach/GM opened the CFL draft selecting Oklahoma offensive tackle Josiah St. John first overall. Landing the six-foot-six, 309-pound St. John is great news for Durant, who has suffered season-ending elbow and Achilles injuries the last two years.

Jones expects St. John to compete for a starting job immediately, something the Ajax, Ont., native is good with.

"I'm ready to be part of a team again ... and start working," St. John said during a conference call. "There's obviously pressure being No. 1 but I'm not going to worry about it too much."

> **I'm going to go in there with a hungry mentality and a chip on my shoulder.**
> Josiah St. John

The Montreal Alouettes, who've traditionally started five Canadian offensive linemen, took Laval guard Philippe Gagnon second overall. The six-foot-three, 317-pound native of Ancienn-Larette, Que., was a two-time CIS second-team all-star and had the most bench press reps (40) at the CFL combine.

The Hamilton Tiger-Cats traded with the B.C. Lions for the No. 3 spot and took Grand Valley State offensive lineman Brandon Revenberg. The native of Windsor, Ont., wasn't listed on the CFL scouting bureau's final top-20 prospects list despite starting 39 collegiate games.

After the Toronto Argonauts took Acadia receiver Brian Jones at No. 4, B.C. selected Laval's Charles Vaillancourt fifth overall. The six-foot-four, 315-pound Vaillancourt was highly regarded for his strong all-around game and at No. 6 was the second-highest ranked offensive lineman. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Curry becomes the first unanimous NBA MVP

Stephen Curry is the first unanimous NBA MVP, earning the award for the second straight season Tuesday after leading the defending champion Warriors to a record-setting season.

He was followed in the vote by Kawhi Leonard of San Antonio and LeBron James of Cleveland. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man United loses to West Ham after bus attacked

Manchester United's hopes of Champions League soccer took a hit on Tuesday in a 3-2 defeat at West Ham that followed an attack on the visiting team's bus as it arrived for the match.

Objects were thrown at the bus, injuring one police officer and delaying the match by 45 minutes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Mini Turkey Meatloaves

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Do you not love anything that is mini? And, more importantly, do you not love a dinner that can be packed in the freezer for a night when getting dinner on the table seems like climbing Everest?

Ready in
Prep time: 15
Cook time: 45

Ingredients
- 1 glug of olive oil
- 1/3 cup onion, diced on the fine side
- 1/3 cup celery, diced small
- 1/3 cup carrot, peeled and diced small
- 1 tsp fennel seeds
- 1/2 cup of rolled oats
- 1 1/2 pound of ground turkey
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup Parmesan, grated
- 2 Tbsp ketchup
- 1 tsp Worcestershire sauce

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Warm up your olive oil in a pan over medium heat. Add your vegetables and the fennel seeds and allow them just start to soften, about 3 to 5 minutes. Remove from the heat and allow to cool a bit.

2. In a large mixing bowl, combine your meat, oats, ketchup, sauteed vegetables, cheese and egg. Mix with your clean hands or a fork. Now use a 1/3 cup measure to scoop up your mixture and put it into your muffin tin.

3. In a small bowl, mix together 2 Tbsp of ketchup and 1 tsp of Worcestershire sauce. Use a small spoon to smear this glaze over the top of your mini meatloaves. Pop them in the oven for 40 minutes. The internal temperature for meatloaf should be 160 to 165 degrees.

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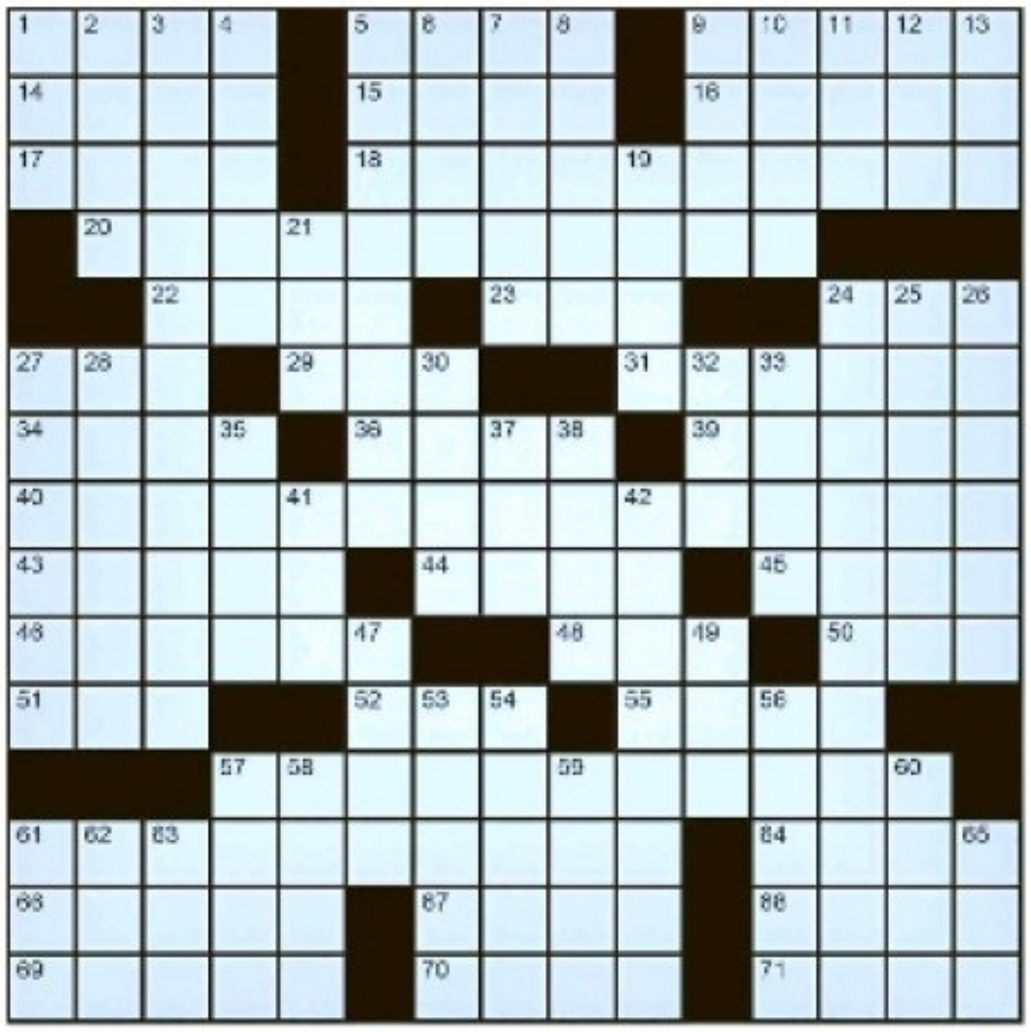
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Rhyming pattern
5. Snorkeller's destination
9. Retreat in The Beach Boys song "Kokomo"
14. Collector's suffix
15. "Step __ __ pets." (Furry friends palindrome)
16. Looked with bewilderment
17. The __ (Hamilton expressway)
18. Revolters
20. __ Man
22. __-chef
23. __ culpa!
24. Luxe lieu
27. Manfred Mann's "Do __ Diddy Diddy"
29. Marcel Marceau's clown
31. Sort of celebrity: 2 wds.
34. Actress Ms. Larter's
36. Objective
39. "_ __ my ticket!" (Lottery-winner's lament)
40. House feature where the breeze can be experienced without the bother of bugs: 2 wds.
43. Swiss Cheese characteristic
44. Ms. Amos
45. Pre-Johnny Carson host Jack
46. Levelled
48. Life span
50. The Mower to the __-Worms (Andrew Marvell poem)
51. Actress Susan
52. Volcanic residue
55. "Take this..."
57. In 1875, she became the first female doctor licenced to practice medicine in Canada: 2 wds.
61. Hypersensitivity-reaction-causer like pollen or milk, to some
64. Encumbrance
66. Region's plant and animal life
67. Taj*Mahal's site
68. Doggie name
69. Chasm
70. Hold back
71. Brood

DOWN
1. Suffer
2. Bathroom = Salle de __
3. Canadian character in L.M. Montgomery stories: 2 wds.
4. Tropical bean tree
5. STOP, for one: 2 wds.
6. -ette cousin
7. Supply the weapons
8. Strength
9. Turkish title, variantly
10. Bitterly bellyache
11. Booming times
12. Reckon
13. Want __ (Newspaper listings)
19. Talk
21. Stubby pencil
24. Rented space for household belongings: 2 wds.
25. French mathematician, Blaise __ (b.1623 - d.1662)
26. 'Joint'-meaning prefix
27. Like the clothes ready for the dryer
28. Kitchen's cozy nook
30. Margaret Atwood, at times
32. Bigwig, briefly
33. Food-like food
35. Visible
37. __ Annie (Character from the musical Oklahoma!)
38. Former currency in Italy
41. Storm centre
42. Brandy, pre-bedtime
47. "Darn!"
49. 'Pamphlet' suffix
53. Dishonest one
54. Door part
56. House toppers
57. Winnipeg hockey players
58. Historic times
59. W.B. Yeats' land
60. Slangy sassiness
61. Camel hair cloth
62. Ad-__ (Off-the-cuff)
63. "The Thin Man" (1934) starring Myrna __
65. Scatter seed

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Grin and bear it while you deal with late checks in the mail and delays with finances or possessions. On the upside, this is a good time to wrap up old business.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Retrograde Mercury in your sign brings people and situations from your past back into your world. It's deja vu all over again.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Because Mercury is your ruler, you feel the insanity of Mercury retrograde. That's why conversations are confused and you keep misplacing things. Aaghh!

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Old friends are back in your world. Consider this a blessing, because it's wonderful to have history with others (especially as you get older).

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Some of you are in touch with parents or bosses you haven't seen for a while. A hot tip: If you're looking for a job, go back to where you worked or applied to before.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Travel plans might be frustrating because of mistakes and delays. However, this is an excellent time to finish a book, thesis or school paper.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The stars will help you to wrap up old business with inheritances, taxes, debt and shared property. You will be surprised how easily this will flow.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Old friends are back in your life again, as well as ex-partners and ex-spouses. Consider this an opportunity for closure or swapping lies about the bad old days.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Delays, missed communications and silly errors will dog your steps at work now — there's no doubt about it. Just cope as best you can for the next few weeks.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Many of you are running into old flames. This can be exciting or unsettling, depending on how the relationship ended. Mostly, it's a bit freaky.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is an excellent time to make repairs to your home and finish projects you've had on the go. Family discussions will address old problems and probably solve them quickly.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
It's been maddening undergoing errors in your communication. Mixed-up messages, misunderstandings plus misplaced paperwork and delays are quite overwhelming!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		5		9				3
	2				4			6
8				7				
			9	5			3	
		8				9		
	3			4	6			
				6				1
9			7				8	
2				1		4		

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Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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9	5	4	3	2	8	1	7	6
8	3	6	7	1	9	5	4	2
7	1	2	4	6	5	8	3	9
2	9	3	5	7	1	4	6	8
5	8	7	6	3	4	9	2	1
6	4	1	8	9	2	3	5	7
1	7	5	2	8	3	6	9	4
3	2	8	9	4	6	7	1	5
4	6	9	1	5	7	2	8	3

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